

Amendments to the Drawings

Formal drawings are being submitted concurrently herewith on a Replacement Sheet to add Figure 8 to the drawings.

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claims 14-17 and 19-27 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 20, 26, and 27 being the independent claims. Claims 15 and 27 are sought to be amended.

No new matter has been added by any of these amendments.

The Examiner is thanked for the early indication that claims 14-17 and 19-27 were allowed over the cited references.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and that they be withdrawn.

Objection to the Drawings

The drawings stand objected to as not showing an interferometer. The as filed application incorporated U.S. Patent No. 6,628,406 by reference as showing an exemplary system in which an SLD could be used. The '406 patent illustrates such a system as including an interferometer. Accordingly, Applicant has added Figure 8 as an exemplary system drawing. Applicant specifically points to the inclusion of an interferometer 26 among other things as part of the exemplary system. Appropriate amendment to the Specification has also been made referencing Figure 8 in the disclosure. The material being inserted by the addition of Figure 8 and the amendment to the Specification is the material previously incorporated by reference and said amendment and said drawing addition contain no new matter. M.P.E.P. § 2163.07(b).

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner accept the drawing addition and specification amendment and withdraw the present objection.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 15 and 27 were objected to by the Examiner.

Based on the above amendment, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and that they be withdrawn. Applicant believes that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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